

REMARKS

The amendments made herein are merely of an editorial nature for the purpose of correcting certain typographical errors.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 3, lines 4-11, the paragraph was amended as follows:

-- In one embodiment, R_2 is an ester ($R_{2a}C(O)O-$), a carbamate ($R_{2a}R_{2b}NC(O)O-$), a carbonate ($R_{2a}OC(O)O-$), or a **thiocarbonate** [**thiocarbamate**] ($R_{2a}SC(O)O-$) wherein R_{2a} and R_{2b} are independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl or heterocyclo. In a preferred embodiment, R_2 is an ester ($R_{2a}C(O)O-$), wherein R_{2a} is aryl or heteroaromatic. In another preferred embodiment, R_2 is an ester ($R_{2a}C(O)O-$), wherein R_{2a} is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl, furyl, thienyl, or pyridyl. In one particularly preferred embodiment, R_2 is benzoyloxy. --.

On page 3, line 34 though page 4, line 18, the paragraph was amended as follows:

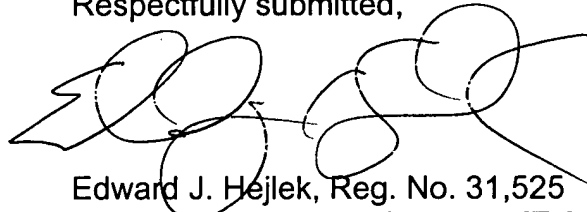
-- While R_9 is keto in one embodiment of the present invention, in other embodiments R_9 may have the alpha or beta stereochemical configuration, preferably the beta stereochemical configuration, and may be, for example, α - or β -hydroxy or α - or β -acyloxy. For example, when R_9 is acyloxy, it may be an ester ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$), a carbamate ($R_{9a}R_{9b}NC(O)O-$), a carbonate ($R_{9a}OC(O)O-$), or a **thiocarbonate** [**thiocarbamate**] ($R_{9a}SC(O)O-$) wherein R_{9a} and R_{9b} are independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl or heterocyclo. If R_9 is an ester ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$), R_{9a} is or unsubstituted alkyl, or unsubstituted alkenyl, or unsubstituted aryl or or unsubstituted heteroaromatic. Still more preferably, R_9 is an ester ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$), wherein R_{9a} is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl, or unsubstituted furyl, or unsubstituted thienyl, or or unsubstituted pyridyl. In one embodiment R_9 is ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$) wherein R_{9a} is methyl, ethyl, propyl (straight, branched or cyclic), butyl (straight, branched or cyclic), pentyl, (straight, branched or cyclic), or hexyl (straight, branched or cyclic). In another embodiment R_9 is ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$) wherein R_{9a} is substituted methyl, substituted ethyl, substituted propyl (straight, branched or cyclic), substituted butyl (straight, branched or cyclic), substituted pentyl, (straight, branched or cyclic), or substituted hexyl (straight, branched or cyclic) wherein the substituent(s) is/are selected from the group consisting

of heterocyclo, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkynoxy, aryloxy, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, keto, acyloxy, nitro, amino, amido, thiol, ketal, acetal, ester and ether moieties, but not phosphorous containing moieties. --.

CONCLUSION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any under payment or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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